

suffered a major indignity in 1987 when he lost his prized office to Moore by more than 21 percentage points.

He never fully accepted defeat. Years later, his address in his telephone book was still the county government headquarters.

"This was Jack's life," Davis recalled. "When he was defeated he couldn't move on to something else. He was a doer. He could never sit still."

The comeback Herrity methodically plotted collapsed in 1991 when he lost the GOP nomination for chairman to Davis, his one-time protege, who also handpicked a Republican to run against him in the 2003 primary for board chairman. Since his departure from elective politics, Herrity also failed at bids for Virginia governor in 2001 and county GOP chairman in 2004.

Born in Arlington, reared in Prince George's County and educated at St. Anthony's High School in the District (now All Saints High School), John Frances Herrity was the product of a working-class Irish Catholic family of elevator mechanics, union leaders and loyal Democrats. He spent much of his youth hustling on the basketball court.

After high school and a tour in the Coast Guard, the rambunctious young Herrity settled down to his studies at Georgetown University, where he earned undergraduate and law degrees and met his first wife.

After marrying in 1958, he eventually went into the insurance business, where he worked as a consultant after his return to the private sector.

It did not take long for Herrity to jump into local civic affairs. He soon formed a homeowners association and became the local Democratic precinct captain. But like many Democrats in his era, he became alienated with his party's lurch to the left and switched to the GOP just in time for his first run for office—that of Springfield District supervisor in 1971.

HONORING CURTIS DANIEL "DAN" REAGAN

HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Curtis Daniel "Dan" Reagan of Austin, Texas. Dan Reagan has been a champion for quality transportation and his leadership, knowledge, and vision have helped improve the safety and reliability of the Texas transportation system.

Dan Reagan began his career with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), then the Bureau of Public Roads (BPR), on June 12, 1967 following his graduation from the University of Texas at Austin. He spent almost 3 years in the BPR Highway Engineer Training Program, learning all phases of organizational responsibility and honing his engineering and management skills in Point Reyes, California; Olympia, Washington; Payson, Arizona; Washington, D.C.; Tallahassee, Florida; Ft. Worth, Texas; and Austin, Texas. Mr. Reagan then held numerous positions in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Montgomery, Alabama, including Assistant Area Engineer, Area Engineer, Assistant Planning Engineer, Planning Engineer, and Research Engineer. While stationed in Baton Rouge, Mr. Reagan attended graduate school at Louisiana State University, taking classes in Transportation Engineering.

In June 1981, Mr. Reagan was assigned to the former FHWA Region One Office in Albany, New York, where he held several positions, including Director of Planning, Director of Planning and Program Development, and Deputy Regional Administrator. As the Deputy, he was responsible for all aspects of the Federal-aid Program in the eight Northeast States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands. Then from October 1994 to July 1995, Dan became the Acting Regional Administrator.

On February 4, 1996, Dan Reagan was appointed the Federal Highway Administration's Division Administrator for Texas. With a staff of 50 employees, he was responsible for delivering the second largest Federal-aid Program in the Nation and implementing FHWA's National Strategic Plan throughout Texas, in partnership with the Texas Department of Transportation. While serving as the Texas Division Administrator, Dan Reagan established the FHWA's first International Programs Engineer position for the entire Texas border, created a forum known as the Texas Environmental Resource Stewards that brings together the leaders of state and federal agencies impacting transportation to resolve issues in advance, and paved the way for such landmark public-private partnerships as TTC-35, TTC-69, and the Central Texas Turnpike Project.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to honor and thank Dan Reagan and his family, on the occasion of his retirement, for a lifelong professional commitment of service to the traveling public. I wish Dan Reagan much happiness and good health in the years to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARCI BERKA REIMERS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my good friend, Marci Berka Reimers.

Marci was born on May 21, 1957 at Crawford County Hospital in Denison, IA. She was the second of four children born to Marvin and Donna Berka. Marci had two sisters and a brother named Randy, who I am proud to call my best friend.

After graduating from Humboldt Community High School in 1975, Marci married Brian Reimers on November 29 of that same year. As a young couple they lived in Maryville, MO while Brian attended Northwest Missouri State University. Marci worked in retail while Brian was in college. In 1977, Brian accepted a teaching position at Riceville, IA and they lived in that community for two years. In 1979 they moved to Ogden, IA where Marci was instrumental in helping her husband build a first-time wrestling program for that community. Brian has been a teacher, coach, and athletic director at Ogden High School for 26 years, and he will be inducted in the Iowa High School Wrestling Hall of Fame this month. Marci and Brian were blessed with two sons, Luke and Seth.

Luke was born November 7, 1978. He graduated from Simpson College in Indianola, IA. He and his wife Kara, who live in Waukee, IA, gave Marci and Brian the gift of a grand-

daughter on February 10, 2005. Ella Grace has been the joy of her grandmother's eyes.

Seth was born April 18, 1982. He graduated from Northwest Missouri State University in 2004. While attending NWMSU he was in Army ROTC and received the George C. Marshall ROTC award in 2004. Following graduation, Seth became a U.S. Army Ranger and is currently a 2nd Lieutenant stationed at Fort Drum, NY where he is awaiting deployment to Iraq sometime this year.

Marci was Vice President of City State Bank in Ogden, IA where she was employed for 26 years. She was also a real estate loan officer. In addition, Marci served as treasurer for the Ogden Scholarship & Loan Foundation, which is a private loan foundation providing over one-half million dollars in scholarships to Ogden community members.

Mr. Speaker, Marci was a role model and mentor for many children and adults in Ogden. She served as an advisor, friend, and pillar of support to people of all ages. She was loved for her kind spirit, her strong sense of patriotism, and her ability to clearly live her life based on the principles of respect and dignity for others. Marci worked side-by-side with Brian to build one of the most successful wrestling programs in the state of Iowa. She worked hand-in-hand with Ogden parents and athletes to promote the true spirit of athletics and helped shape many young athletes into responsible American citizens.

Education held a high priority in her life and she encouraged many young men and women to further their education and make a difference in the world. A scholarship has been established in her honor for one young woman each year through the Board of Directors at City State Bank. Marci was an active member of Zion Lutheran Church in Ogden, IA, where she taught Sunday school and served on numerous church committees throughout her life. Her faith in God was remarkable and she demonstrated a life example for all those she touched.

Mr. Speaker, as one of two boys, I always considered Marci the little sister I never had, and regarded her as a member of my own family.

HONORING ARMY SPEC. SERGIO ANTONIO MERCEDES SAEZ

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Army Spec. Sergio Antonio Mercedes Saez, a 23 year old soldier who lost his life on Sunday, February 5th in Iraq. He leaves behind a grieving family and a legacy of service and sacrifice of which our community is proud.

Mr. Mercedes, born in Puerto Rico, split his childhood between New York's Washington Heights and his parents' native Dominican Republic before enlisting in the military three years ago. He was serving his second tour of duty, assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, when the vehicle that he was riding accidentally rolled over in a canal.

Like so many of our young people, Mr. Mercedes was full of hopes and dreams, not only

for himself, but also for his wife Jocelyn and his soon to be born son, which they had agreed to name Christopher Alejandro. He planned on bringing them both back to live in my district, where so many of his family still live and where he could take advantage of his G.I. benefits to get an education.

Yet, he also knew that our freedom was not a gift but a right that had to be earned and secured through shared sacrifice. So although he had his whole life ahead of him, he did not hesitate to serve his country. He answered the call when asked to share the load of this war.

I know that his family, both in Washington Heights and the Dominican Republic, are pained by his death. His loved ones, including his wife, his mother Carmen and his father Sergio Antonio, will never get to see the smile that so often lit up their lives.

Yet they can be proud of the way he served his country. We can all celebrate the life he led, the example he showed and the legacy

he left for his son and his community. And we can make sure that the gift that he and other soldiers have given to us is never forgotten.

REMEMBERING DORIS GREGORY

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 16, 2006

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, our Nation lost a very special citizen with the passing of Doris Gregory of Millington, MI.

Born to Vern and Golda Ostrander in 1922, Doris Gregory endured the Great Depression before she married Normal Narsted in 1939 and was blessed with 3 children.

When the United States entered World War II, Norman bravely volunteered to serve in the U.S. Army. Unfortunately, Normal was killed

during a patrol mission in March 1945. Although she was left brokenhearted, Doris carried on with her family responsibilities and love for community.

Despite many hardships, Doris Gregory approached life with unbridled optimism and energy. Her friends were abundant and strangers to her were, like the words of playwright Tennessee Williams, "simply friends she hadn't met." She was loved and respected by everyone who knew her and was always willing to lend a helping hand.

Doris found great joy volunteering her time. After retirement, she served as the treasurer of the town of Millington and was instrumental in establishing the Millington Senior Center.

While we have said goodbye to Doris this week, her legacy of compassion will continue to shine in the hearts of her friends and family. May God bless Doris Gregory; she will be missed.